



STATE OF MICHIGAN

**Family  
Independence  
Agency**

235 S. Grand Avenue  
PO Box 30037  
Lansing, MI 48909  
Tel: (517) 373-2035  
Fax: (517) 373-8471  
[www.mfia.state.mi.us](http://www.mfia.state.mi.us)

DOUGLAS E. HOWARD, Director

# News Release

**Contact:** Karen Smith  
MFIA Office of Communications

**Phone:** (517) 373-7394

**Date:** July 12, 2001

## **FIA funds new post-adoption services**

**Three regional contractors awarded three-year grants**

**Three more grantees to be selected this summer**

The Family Independence Agency today announced grant awards totaling \$248,564 in the first year to three Michigan agencies. The grants will support post-adoption services in three regions—the Upper Peninsula, a populous four-county West Michigan region, and a seven-county region from the Thumb to Macomb County.

The grants replace earlier funding from the FIA to provide services to adoptive families in Michigan. The FIA made grant awards in a competitive program based on input from adoptive families.

"These grants will continue important services to families that adopt state wards," said state FIA director Howard. "The new regional concept is intended to serve more families and reduce administrative costs.

"Parents who adopted state wards helped define the services they needed, and regional grantees will work with parents and communities to meet their needs."

(more)



JOHN ENGLER, Governor

Grants beginning June 1 and running for three years were awarded to these agencies:

**Child and Family Services of the Upper Peninsula Inc.**

1100 S. Front Street, **Marquette**

Telephone: (877) 826-4960

Local 228-4015

Contact: Nancy Pennell

Annual Grant Amount: **\$83,333**

Estimated Service Group: 960

Counties Served: Gogebic, Ontonagon, Houghton, Keweenaw, Baraga, Iron, Marquette, Dickinson, Menominee, Alger, Delta, Schoolcraft, Luce, Mackinac, Chippewa

**Catholic Services of Macomb**

15980 19 Mile Road, **Clinton Township**

Telephone: (810) 416-2300

Contact: Mary Wade

Annual Grant Amount: **\$83,331**

Estimated Service Group: 2,381

Counties Served: Huron, Tuscola, Sanilac, Genesee, Lapeer, St. Clair, Macomb

**Catholic Social Services of Muskegon**

1095 Third Street, **Muskegon**

Telephone: (866) 968-7411

Contact: Pam Cohn

Annual Grant Amount: **\$81,900**

Estimated Service Group: 2,339

Counties Served: Muskegon, Ottawa, Kent, Allegan

The FIA expects to fund three more regional contracts for similar services this summer for the southern, central and northern Lower Peninsula. Post-adoption services are currently being provided in Oakland and Wayne counties through contracts that will continue into 2002.

Four sets of services will be made available to adoptive families through each regional provider including:

- Coordination of community services, where the regional contractor helps families apply for local services in or near their community.
- Information and referral services.
- Development of community-based support services such as support groups and community events.
- Crisis intervention services for families with no other resources.

Eligible families must be Michigan residents who have a child or children that were state wards with finalized adoptions who is/are less than age 18. The child(ren) must have been adopted from foster care in Michigan or another state and they must be receiving or eligible to receive a state adoption subsidy from Michigan or another state.

Michigan provides about 18,500 adoption subsidies to families that adopted minor children from foster care. The subsidy amount is about \$640 a month and is intended to support the family's needs for services to special needs children.

Most children adopted through the FIA or its contract agencies were state wards who met one of four "special needs" criteria: age (generally older than newborn or infant), race or heritage (minority), health status, and/or being a member of a sibling group needing adoption.

For more information on services to be provided, call the local contact person at the regional agency.

###

■ For more information on adoption services available through the Family Independence Agency, contact the FIA website [www.mfia.state.mi.us](http://www.mfia.state.mi.us) and go to "Customer Services and Programs," then click on "Adoption Services."